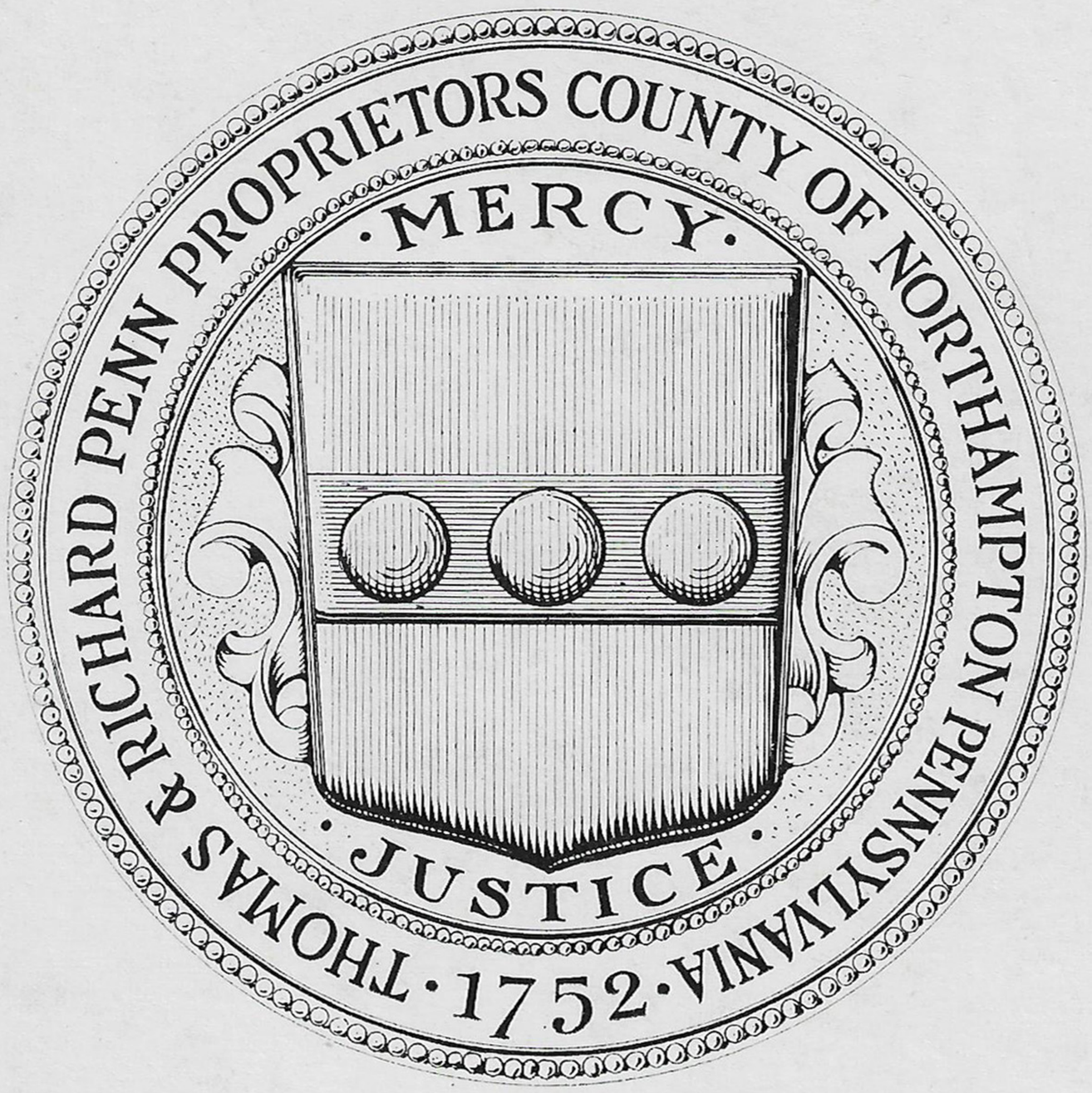
Easton Goes To War,
April, 1861



Northampton County Historical and Genealogical Society

Easton, Pennsylvania

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The old Court House in Center Square

Easton Goes To War, April, 1861*

By

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It was mid April, 1861, and as usual spring was late. Persistent cold and wintry blasts which had made Easton shiver gave way at last to pleasant sunshine and soaking rains.[1] Though greatly appreciated, improved weather failed to ease the feelings of uncertainty, dread, and distress with which the people of Easton awaited news from Charleston, South Carolina. The fateful day of April 12 brought word over crackling wires that early in the morning the batteries of the state's armed forces had opened a cannonade on Fort Sumter and the national colors which flew over it. War had finally come to resolve a crisis which had started with the secession of South Carolina the previous December and had been followed by the formation of a Confederacy of seven Southern states about six weeks later.

During these anxious months the people of Easton, a county seat of approximately 12,000 inhabitants and one of the largest boroughs in Pennsylvania[2], showed keen awareness of developments on the national scene. Like so many Northerners, they hoped to avoid war by finding a way out of the growing impasse between the North and South. They wanted to make reasonable concessions to Southern demands without, however, sacrificing the integrity of the Union, to which they pledged unswerving loyalty. During this time celebrations of anniversaries in the nation's history became occasions for striking displays of patriotic feeling in the community. The first one took place on the afternoon of January 8, when three military companies turned out and paraded the streets of Easton, while "Poly" Patier boomed away with his six-pounder cannon on top of Mount Jefferson. They were doing honor to the memory of Andy Jackson's victory at New Orleans in 1815 and his oath during the nullification crisis of 1832 to hang as high as Haman the man who attempted to dissolve the Union.[3]

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On Washington's birthday Easton went all out in putting on an even bigger and better show. "Poly" Patier started the celebration by firing his ever faithful cannon. During the morning a group of men and boys, led by a drummer bearing a sign, "Fort Sumter cannot be taken," poked fun at people in the national limelight and burlesqued important events in the news to the delight of jeering and cheering crowds. One member of the group, portraying Governor Pickens of South Carolina, walked with a rope around his neck. The great event of the day was a sham battle put on by the three military companies of Easton and the Northampton Artillerists of Saucon. The first phase began with a skirmish on Northampton Street. Than about 4 o'clock all the companies moved toward Mount Jefferson, where they divided into two groups. The Northampton Artillerists and the Jaegers, an Easton company, took position to protect the American flag placed on the crest of the hill. The Easton National Guards attacked the height from the east, and the Easton Citizens Artillerists charged up from the West. Then the fun began. At first the movements were orderly, but they soon ended in a grand melee amid continual firing of guns, hoarse shouts, and flashing of swords. Some of the boys became unduly excited and began to fight in earnest. Before cooler heads calmed them down quite a few suffered flesh wounds, fortunately none of a serious nature. The attacking forces finally seized the summit and carried off the flag in triumph. A local historian adjudged it a "day of rare sport" to the onlookers and of "good practice for the volunteers." Following a banquet at Hulsizer's Hotel, a crowd gathered to hear speeches given in honor of the Federal Union. This meeting ended with cheers for the Union and brought to a close one of the "most spirited celebrations" of Washington's birthday ever held in Easton.[4]

People in Easton did not limit their patriotic outbursts to national holidays, for the secession crisis kept them screwed up to a high pitch of enthusiasm. Four days before Washington's birthday mechanics and workingmen of Easton, upset by the threatening news from the South, crowded into the old Court House in Center Square to hold a meeting in support of the Union. Among the many speeches delivered that of Isaac Pixley stood out. As a Mexican War veteran he received "rapturous applause" for his appeal to the "laboring men" to stand by the flag. An overwhelming majority of the audience responded to his address by adopting

a series of resolutions "intensely loyal in tone." They resolved that the election of Lincoln was not just cause for secession; that the rights of the South in the Union should be upheld and concessions should be made to secure the Southerners their constitutional rights; that secession was illegal and no concessions should be made to secessionists because their actions were leading toward civil war. The meeting adjourned on a high note with nine rousing cheers for the Union.[5]

This awareness of developments in national affairs only partly cushioned for the people of Easton the shock of the explosion in Charleston. Although no one was really surprised, it seemed hard to realize that fellow Americans would plunge the nation into a civil war. There was no doubt, however, in the minds of Republican leaders and many Democrats as to who was to blame. Upon receiving news of the bombardment some Republicans sent out notices for a public meeting. During a heavy thunder shower, so typical of April, there assembled on Saturday evening of the 13th "one of the largest, most respectable and enthusiastic meetings ever held in the Court House." After the Hon. H. D. Maxwell had called the meeting to order, election of permanent officers took place, and Judge Samuel Yohe was chosen chairman. Maxwell then addressed the crowd in a brief but stirring speech, in which he gave reasons for holding the meeting. The primary object was to organize tangible support for the government against "traitors and rebels," who were now "trampling our flag under their feet," by recruiting men to serve either the state or federal government and by raising money to equip and maintain them. After frequent interruptions by shouts and applause, Maxwell ended his peroration and introduced several resolutions designed to carry out the aims of the meeting as he had outlined them. Following unanimous approval by the crowd, other speakers rose to orate in support of the flag. Enthusiasm for the Stars and Stripes and bitter denunciation of its foes mounted as the evening progressed. Before the meeting adjourned until Monday, April 15, about 80 men had volunteered for service, while others had pledged money to equip them.[6]

By the time the adjourned meeting began at the Court House the following Monday President Lincoln's call for 75,000 volunteers for three months' service to put down the insurrection had been proclaimed throughout the country. Despite unpleasant

weather the building was crowded to overflowing, and many persons looked in at the windows to see and hear all they could. The Rev. Mr. Mitchell, called on to address the meeting, spoke in a "most eloquent manner." The Hon. H. D. Maxwell also did his bit by making another "effective and telling speech." Members of the meeting then instructed Maxwell to go to Harrisburg to report their actions and achievements to the Governor and find out in what other ways the people of Easton could cooperate with the state. Among other things Maxwell could report that about 200 men had already volunteered for military service. Before the meeting adjourned to Wednesday night the crowd upon a motion by James McKeen gave three cheers for Maryland because it was one of the first border states to "come out in favor of the Union . . . ."[7] It is doubtful whether the same good will toward Maryland prevailed a few days later after news reached Easton of the Baltimore riots against the Sixth Massachusetts Regiment.

These demonstrations of ardent devotion to the flag and the Union reflected an attitude shared by perhaps most of the people of Easton, but not by all. The need for unity in face of an emergency for awhile failed to stifle strong party feelings. Some people at first seemed to regard the war as a show put on by a Republican administration, while the more rabid Republicans became increasingly intolerant of any attitude or position short of the most blatant patriotism. As a result the editors of the six newspapers published in Easton regarded each other suspiciously and stood poised to throw verbal brickbats upon the slightest provocation.[8]

The *Easton Argus*, the *Easton Sentinel*, and the *Correspondent and Democrat*, a German language paper, strongly supported the Democratic party. Almost a week after the bombardment of Fort Sumter the *Argus* persisted in following what was popularly known as the "doughface" line. In commenting on the Union meeting held on April 13, the paper said that it differed with those men who had attended over the way to restore peace. Opposed to civil War under any and all circumstances, it proposed that if "national difficulties cannot be satisfactorily adjusted," a "peaceable separation" should be made "through a national convention." The Union, asserted the paper, could never be held together by force, nor the seceded states brought back to it by force of arms.[9] A week later the paper began to whistle a different tune by saying

that it saw "no other honorable course for patriotic and national men but to sustain the constituted authorities of the country in the exercise of their legitimate authorities . . . ."[10] The paper therefore raised the "stars and stripes" to its masthead, and its motto from then on was to be "Our Country — Our Whole, Our Union and Our Constitution."[11]

The *Easton Sentinel* gave vent to its partisan feelings perhaps more cleverly by casting aspersions on the patriotism of the Republicans rather than denouncing preparations for war. It claimed that the leaders of the so-called "Black Republican" party (a most opprobrious term in those days), who were responsible for the patriotic rally on April 13, were inconsistent and therefore straw patriots. They had castigated the Polk administration for getting the United States into war with Mexico. But now, the paper charged, " 'the boot is on the other leg' — this war has been provoked by the Black Republican party, now in power, with a number of [political] offices yet to fill . . . and as . . . [the war] is with citizens of our own country, these same men fairly thirst for blood and revenge."[12] The very presence of these sham patriots was a "stigma upon honest, patriot hearts [meaning good Democrats], who assembled on Saturday evening" ready to show their devotion to the country and "fight for its honor under all circumstances." The paper ended this tirade by saying that it had no use for those who fought for country only under "*certain circumstances.*"[13]

One of the staunch Republican journals, the *Easton Free Press*, during the first week of the war expressed its "surprise and astonishment" upon discovering citizens in Easton who "openly denounce the Government at Washington in this crisis, and who are not backward in boldly expressing their sympathies for the seceders . . . ." It warned that in time of war there cannot be two patriotic parties. People must either be for or against their government, either loyal or disloyal. There was no "middle ground." The paper then called upon the *Argus*, *Sentinel*, and *Democrat* to tell their readers what side they were on.[14]

The *Northampton County Journal*, another Republican mouthpiece, wrote in strong language about those "northern men with southern sympathies and principles" and suggested that they had better keep cool and quiet. The day for "toleration of treason to the Constitution" had gone by because the temper of the North

had been so "fiercely aroused" that it would no longer brook expressions of sympathy for traitors. Therefore "abettors of treason," the paper warned, should be cautious of what they said, for the time might not be far off when they would "either be compelled to swallow . . . [their] ugly words, or be publicly branded as traitors."[15]

A week later the *Journal* condemned an article in the *Correspondent and Democrat* on grounds that it would encourage "opposition and dissatisfaction" of the people with efforts of the government to "defend itself and the Union against rebellion and treason." For that reason the *Journal* adjudged the article as treasonable and held the editor responsible for it. In the same issue the *Journal* gave the *Sentinel* and *Argus* a clean bill of loyalty. It had intended to "cull some choice extracts" from these papers of the past week, but learning of the conversion of the editors to the "cause of law and order," it had decided to forbear and await developments.[16]

The attitude of the Republican press thoroughly annoyed the editor of the *Sentinel*, who instructed "Mr. *Free Press*" to look around and he would see that those at whom he sneered were not lagging behind in patriotism and eagerness to defend the country's flag. In affirming his loyalty the editor insisted that he would not be intimidated by threats from doing his duty, presumably as a member of the Democratic opposition. He reacted in the same vein to comments in the *Northampton County Journal* and suggested that instead of publishing "choice extracts" from the *Sentinel*, it should print the whole of last week's article on the war. The editor was not ashamed of it, but expressed fear of a "quote out of context" which would lead to "sneaking insinuations or garbled extracts." Let the readers, he said, judge for themselves.[17]

These recriminations strongly flavored with intemperate language and innuendos represented something deeper and more significant than the bickering of partisan-minded newspaper editors. They revealed the fundamental difficulty in drawing the line between treason and loyal opposition, especially during a civil war. When the integrity of a nation is at stake impatience increases with any kind of opposition, no matter how legitimate. There is also the temptation at any time to dispose of political opposition

merely by smearing it with some opprobrious words, but during a war the charge of "treason" is the handiest and most effective weapon to use. A situation of this sort encourages the rowdy element in a community to break loose and wreak destruction in the name of patriotism. This development occurred in Easton, much to the chagrin of its more law-abiding citizens.

From the earliest days of the war the Republican newspapers and some of their readers seemed only too ready to bandy about indiscriminately the words "treason," "traitor," "disloyal." The Democratic press complained bitterly of this practice. The *Sentinel* charged that the more "brawling of the Black Republicans" for want of something to do were "running around branding as traitors and using threatening language towards all who will not swear by the Chicago platform and construe the Constitution as intending protection . . . [for] Northern property only."[18] The allusion to the Chicago platform and protection of Northern property was a jibe at the Republican party's condemnation of the institution of slavery in the convention of 1860.

The implication that the slavery question involved only a Southern right to a certain form of property and not human rights and that Republicans were "nigger lovers" served only to incite the wrath of the editor's opponents. It perhaps weakened the justice of his complaint in the eyes of more reasonable men. More dignified and moderate in tone, the editor of the *Argus* observed that during the first week of the war he never remembered having seen so much "party rancor and bitterness of feeling" as was shown by some Republicans against Democrats. He claimed it was not uncommon to hear them use profanity and hurl epithets such as "traitor" and "Tory" against their Democratic neighbors. In one instance the editor overheard one man declare that "every g-d d-m democrat should be hung."[19] Two weeks later in another editorial the *Argus* made an appeal to the good-will and sense of the people of Easton by saying that it was "high time that the insinuations against the loyalty of citizens and threats to destroy private property should cease." The paper claimed that there was not a man in the community who was not ready to make personal sacrifices for the preservation of the United States. It also pointed out that not only was mob violence unnecessary in a community where legal processes to redress grievances remained

unimpaired, but also it would put a taint on a noble cause. Finally, it asserted, no high principle could condone such action.[20]

Assuming that the people of Easton agreed with these observations, they suffered a serious mental lapse when the first and most serious outbreak of violence occurred in August of 1861. At that time the fortunes of the Union cause had just dipped to a low point following the debacle in July at Bull Run. A mob vented its spleen against those people who seemed to rejoice at a Union defeat. On Monday night, August 19, it went to work intimidating prominent Democrats and ended up by wrecking the printing plant of the *Sentinel* and partially destroying that of the *Argus*. The next night diversionary methods by leading Republicans and others, whose patriotism seemed to be beyond reproach, prevented a repetition of events of the previous evening.[21] Such are the costs of partisan feelings and misplaced patriotism!

Nevertheless, to the casual observer going about the borough's streets rather than through the newspaper columns, Easton gave the appearance of unanimous support of the war. Certainly right from the start the war "fever" proved contagious, and all signs indicated that a vast majority, if not all of the people showed a willingness to contribute to the preservation of the Union according to their various capacities. News of the bombardment and surrender of Fort Sumter had immediately caused great excitement. On Sunday following the patriotic rally of Saturday, April 13, crowds of people anxious for more news stood about the street corners discussing the state of affairs. There seemed to be a universal feeling that something must be done to back the government "at all cost." According to the *Journal*, "Never, since the days of the revolution, has the patriotism of our citizens been so deeply stirred, never was it so prompt to make all sacrifices for our country's honor and defence."[22] For this reason and perhaps because it was the thing to do, people suddenly displayed the flag or national colors in every conceivable shape and manner. Hundreds of American flags waved from all public places as well as private dwellings. Small ones appeared on all telegraph poles and barber poles, and the heads of the omnibus and dray horses were gaily decked out with little banners. Many business houses and workshops placed the flag in every window, while children blossomed forth with red, white, and blue rosettes. The demand for

flags became so great that not one could be had for "love or money."[23]

In many instances "flag raisings," as the press called them, took place before large public gatherings with much fanfare and ceremony. The Franklin Literary Society unfurled a "beautiful flag" on the top of its building in the Square on Monday night, April 22. Pomp's Cornet Band played several national airs, and a number of men and women sang the *Star Spangled Banner*. A much more impressive and important affair the next day involved the teachers and about 2,000 "scholars" of the public schools. (Notice the reference to scholars instead of pupils.) Watched by crowds in the street, they met on the green before the high school building with the school directors, clergy, and Pomp's Band. The company of the State of Rhode Island Marine Artillery Regiment, which had been camping at the Easton Fair Grounds since April 20, fired a thunderous salute from College Hill. At a given signal four national flags were run up while the band played the *Star Spangled Banner*. The Rev. Mr. C. H. Edgar then gave an invocation, after which the children burst into the national anthem. A teacher at the high school delivered a short but appropriate address, the children sang *America*, everyone gave three cheers for the Stars and Stripes, and the whole group proceeded to the West Ward School building to repeat the performance there.[24]

For a while displays of patriotic enthusiasm seemed to keep Easton in a constant uproar. The sound of drum and fife at all hours revealed nervous excitement and created an air of expectancy.[25] There was always the chance that some group would suddenly decide to put on a show of flag-waving and tooting of horns before cheering onlookers. Such an incident occurred on April 22. While a large crowd, which had gathered in the Square, saluted the flag just raised over the headquarters of the Franklin Literary Society, martial music could be heard in the direction of the Lehigh River bridge. Soon a procession bearing three large flags appeared. At first people thought it to be a company of volunteers, but they soon discovered that it was a group of women from South Easton, many of whom worked in the cotton factory. The crowd in the Square enthusiastically greeted them with "cheer upon cheer." The *Journal* ended its account of this incident with a rhetorical flourish: "If our women thus possess and exhibit the

spirit of the women of '76, can the men dare to do less than the patriot of those days?"[26]

The men dared and did as well as the women. In short order five companies of volunteers of about 100 each left Easton for Harrisburg to be mustered in. The first contingent, consisting of two companies of men who had enlisted after the two patriotic rallies of April 13 and 15 respectively, boarded the Lehigh Valley Railroad train at 9:00 a. m., Thursday, April 18, with the cheers of their fellow townsmen ringing in their ears. The festivities and displays of patriotic sentiment which accompanied their departure were typical of all such occasions within the next few days. Thursday turned out to be bright and sunny, but even before dawn people started preparations for the departure of this first group of volunteers. At 8:00 a. m. the cannon on Mount Jefferson roared out the signal for them to assemble at Center Square, and soon people thronged the streets, blocking them in all directions. After rollcall the volunteers led by Pomp's Cornet Band marched to the residence of F. W. Noble on South Third Street where a "committee of ladies" awaited to give them two silk banners "emblazoned with the dear Stars and Stripes." The Rev. Mr. Job L. Halsey of Norristown gave the invocation and Governor Andrew H. Reeder (of "Bleeding Kansas" fame) made a speech, after which Captains Samuel Yohe and Charles Heckman responded on behalf of their respective companies. Following the presentation the volunteers marched to the Lehigh Valley Railroad station in time to the "stirring music" of Pomp's Band. An immense crowd, estimated to be from four to six thousand people, followed the soldiers, and "amid the waving of flags and handkerchiefs — the ringing of bells, and the cheering sunlight of a beautiful spring morning,two hundred of . . . (Easton) . . . townsmen honored their native borough by hurrying to the defence of their country's flag."[27]

Two days later two more companies, the Easton National Guards and the Citizens Artillery, departed for Harrisburg to be followed within forty-eight hours by the Easton Jaegers. All three of these units had been organized before the war, the oldest one, the Easton National Guards, as early as September, 1848.[28] Four of the companies became part of the First Pennsylvania Regiment of Volunteer Militia, while the Jaegers entered into the Ninth Regiment. Easton had the honor of contributing not only the largest

number of troops to the state's first Civil War regiment, but also its colonel, Judge Samuel Yohe, and its surgeon and assistant surgeon, Drs. Jacob R. Ludlow and William H. H. Michler. About the same time Charles Glanz, Captain of the Jaegers, was promoted to Major of the Ninth Regiment. By May 1 Easton had sent about 600 volunteers to the war, Allentown about 260, and Bethlehem 85. The two counties of Northampton and Lehigh together had contributed around 900 men to the state's quota of 13,000 troops, which had been met within a week after Lincoln's call for militia.[29]

Meanwhile other groups began to form military organizations. Peter Baldy, former district attorney who was blessed with a "thorough military education," began to recruit men for his company. Another enterprising individual, William Firmstone, superintendent of the Glendon Iron Works, opened a muster roll at his office for the purpose of forming a company of volunteers to be ready at a moment's notice should the state issue another call for troops. Certain German citizens of Easton held a meeting in Otto Voight's saloon and organized their own company. Some 70 men of the borough who could not volunteer for active duty because of business and personal obligations got up a "Reserved Guard" for the purpose of learning military drill and formations. Until asked to serve in the army they put themselves at the disposal of local authorities for riot and fire duty.[30] In comparison to the slick and efficient methods of military mobilization in the 20th century these efforts seem amateurish and crude. Yet they reveal a grassroots quality that somewhat explains the strange fascination the Civil War has for Americans today.

The war fever affected Easton in other and less obvious ways than volunteering for military service. The departure for war of a large number of married men in humble circumstances left many families "almost destitute." Through the efforts of various informal and formal organizations the people of Easton "liberally" contributed to the support of these families. In addition several physicians offered their professional services free of charge to families of men in the borough who had gone to war.[31]

Not everyone, however, was so self-sacrificing, and certain people tried to take advantage of the crisis for their own gain. One

self-styled "Bard of the Easton Hall of Fashion" showed this tendency when he published an ad containing the following poetic effusion:

Our Country

Let those who make the quarrels
Be the only ones to fight,
Is sentiment we can endorse,
With all our heart and might.

But who are the true offenders,
In this secession move?
Those best deserving drubbing
Appears difficult to prove.

The South, in flaming language, puts
The blame upon the North,
The North upon the factious South,
Pours her invectives forth.

Panic-making, for the present,
Seems to be newspaper forte,
In every town and village,
Men are joining a cohort.

According to its counsels,
To protect the nation's flag,
(Of whose certain demolition
Southern fanatics brag.)

Men's brains grow wearied guessing
At "Cabinet movements," all the while,
To distract their thought from gloomy themes,
Let them make a call on Pyle.

The bard ended his effort with this announcement: "A fine stock of spring clothing and uncut goods [are] on hand at Pyle's Hall of Fashion, opposite the old Easton Bank."[32]

As so awkwardly expressed in poetry, the men of Easton did join the army in large numbers, but most of them had little doubt about the "true offenders in this secession move." In spite of political differences the people of Easton closed ranks and for the

time being at least united against a common foe. Many of them with close relatives living in the South immediately sensed the personal tragedy of a civil war with "brother fighting brother."[33] If saddened by this situation, as they probably were, they nevertheless made a brave showing and blithely sent their boys off to finish a war which someone else had started. In so doing neither they, nor anyone else, anticipated how long it would take and what would be the cost.

SOURCES

1. *Easton Argus*, April 18, 1861.
2. M. S. Henry, *History of the Lehigh Valley* (Easton, 1860), 118-119. Henry also said that the population of Bethlehem in 1860 was about 5,000 and that of Allentown around 10,000.
3. U. W. Condit, *The History of Easton*, 219.
4. *Ibid.*, 220-221.
5. *Ibid.*, 219-220.
6. *The Easton Free Press*, April 18, 1861; *Easton Argus*, April 18, 1861.
7. *The Easton Free Press*, April 18, 1861.
8. The papers published in Easton in April 1861 were as follows: *Easton Argus* both a weekly and a daily; *Easton Sentinel*, a weekly; *The Easton Free Press*, a weekly; *The Easton Express*, a daily; *The Correspondent and Democrat*, a weekly; *Northampton County Journal*, a weekly. See *Alphabetical List of Newspapers in The Easton Public Library*, MS.
9. *Easton Argus*, April 18, 1861.
10. *Ibid.*, April 25, 1861.
11. *Ibid.*
12. *Easton Sentinel*, April 18, 1861.
13. *Ibid.*
14. *The Easton Free Press*, April 18, 1861.
15. *Northampton County Journal*, April 17, 1861.
16. *Ibid.*, April 24, 1861. Judging from the tone and contents of its editorials, *The Easton Daily Express* represented the more moderate Republican point of view. Unfortunately the April and May issues are missing in the Easton Public Library.
17. *Easton Sentinel*, April 25, 1861.
18. *Ibid.*, April 18, 1861.
19. *Easton Argus*, April 18, 1861.
20. *Ibid.*, May 1, 1861.
21. For accounts of the riot see *Northampton County Journal*, August 21, 1861; *Easton Sentinel*, August 29, 1861; Condit, *History of Easton*, 237-238; *The Easton Daily Express*, August 20, 21, 1861. The *Express* condemned the riot in no uncertain terms.
22. *Northampton County Journal*, April 17, 1861. For excitement in Easton see also the *Easton Argus*, April 18, 1861.
23. *Easton Argus*, April 25, 1861.
24. *Easton Sentinel*, April 25, 1861; *The Easton Free Press*, April 25, 1861.
25. *Easton Argus*, April 25, 1861.
26. *Northampton County Journal*, April 24, 1861.
27. *Easton Daily Express* quoted in *Easton Argus*, April 25, 1861.
28. *Easton Argus*, April 25, 1861; Condit, *History of Easton*, 214-218; 225-228.
29. *Easton Sentinel*, April 25, 1861; *Easton Argus*, May 1, 1861; Samuel B. Bates, *History of Pennsylvania Volunteers*, 1861-5, 13-22; 86-95.
30. *Easton Argus*, April 25, May 1, 1861; *Easton Sentinel*, April 25, 1861.
31. *Northampton County Journal*, April 24, 1861; *Easton Sentinel*, April 25, 1861; *Easton Argus*, April 25, May 1, 1861.
32. *Easton Argus*, April 18, 1861.
33. See *Ibid.*, April 25, 1861 for the following editorial:

    "The Horrors of Civil War—One of our clergymen stated in a recent sermon that he could count no less than 33 families in his congregation who had relatives in the Southern states. We can count one hundred families in the Borough of Easton who are similarly situated. Some have sons who emigrated, settled and married in the South, many have daughters united by marriage to young men in the South, while scores of your own men have selected wives from among the fair daughters of the sunny South. Thus we have the sad spectacle presented of brother fighting brother, husband against Father-in-law and *vice versa*."